

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1-48. (canceled).

49. (previously added): A method of assembling a motor shaft with a motor component, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a motor shaft having a first end with a first surface geometry comprising a non-circular cross section;

installing a fan impeller [onto the motor shaft] proximate the first end of the motor shaft;

engaging a shaft extension comprising a first end having a second surface geometry comprising a non-circular cross section with the first surface geometry of the first end of the motor shaft; and

installing a second end of the shaft extension into a lower assembly.

50. (previously added): The method of claim 49, wherein the first surface geometry comprises a hexagonal cross section.

51. (previously added): The method of claim 49, wherein the first surface geometry comprises a square cross section.

52. (previously added): The method of claim 49, wherein the first surface geometry defines a compartment within the motor shaft.

53. (previously added): The method of claim 49, further comprising tightening a retainer onto the first end of the motor shaft and into abutment with the fan impeller.

54. (previously added): The method of claim 53, wherein the retainer comprises a threaded nut.

55. (previously added): The method of claim 49, wherein the lower assembly comprises a pump impeller.

56. (previously added): The method of claim 49, wherein the lower assembly comprises a bearing.

57. (currently amended): A motor assembly, comprising:
a motor shaft having a first end with a first surface geometry comprising a non-circular cross section;
a fan impeller ~~mechanically coupled to~~ ^{See P 6, G 10 & 15} installed on the motor shaft proximate the first end of the motor shaft;
a shaft extension comprising a first end having a second surface geometry comprising a non-circular cross section coupled to the first surface geometry of the first end of the motor shaft; and
a lower assembly coupled to the shaft extension.

58. (previously amended): The motor assembly of claim 57, further comprising a first washer disposed on a side of the fan impeller that is away from the first end of the motor shaft and a second washer disposed on a side of the fan impeller that is toward the first end of the motor shaft.

59. (previously added): The motor assembly of claim 58, further comprising a threaded retainer disposed on the first end of the motor shaft and into abutment with the second washer.

60. (previously added): The motor assembly of claim 57, wherein the first surface geometry defines a compartment within the motor shaft.

61. (previously added): The motor assembly of claim 57, wherein the shaft extension comprises a threaded nut rotatably connected thereto, wherein the threaded nut is threaded onto the first end of the motor shaft.

Actual
62. (previously amended): A method of assembling a motor shaft with a motor component, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a motor shaft having a first end with a threaded periphery and a first surface geometry comprising a non-circular cross section;

placing a first washer over the first end of the motor shaft and onto the motor shaft;

installing a fan impeller over the first end of the motor shaft and onto the motor shaft proximate the first end of the motor shaft and into abutment with the first washer;

placing a second washer over the first end of the motor shaft and onto the motor shaft into abutment with the fan impeller;

installing a threaded nut onto the threaded periphery of the first end of the motor shaft and into abutment with the second washer;

engaging a shaft extension comprising a first end having a second surface geometry comprising a non-circular cross section with the first surface geometry of the first end of the motor shaft; and

installing a second end of the shaft extension into a lower assembly.

63. (previously added): The method of claim 62, wherein the first surface geometry comprises a hexagonal cross section.

64. (previously added): The method of claim 62, wherein the first surface geometry comprises a square cross section.

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• 65. (previously added): The method of claim 62, wherein the first surface geometry defines a compartment within the motor shaft.

66. (currently amended): The method of claim 62, wherein the lower assembly comprises a pump impeller.

67. (previously added): The method of claim 62, wherein the lower assembly comprises a bearing.